



St. Chad's Catholic Primary School

Class 2 Newsletter – Autumn Term 2026



Welcome to Class 2

A very warm welcome to Class 2 and the start of a new school year! We hope you all had a wonderful summer break. The children have made a fantastic start to the term and have settled quickly into their new classroom and routines.

This year, Class 2 will be taught by **Mrs Ingham** (Monday-Thursday) and **Mrs Taylor** (Friday) with support from our teaching assistants, **Mrs Turner** and **Miss Brennan**. We are all looking forward to working with the children and sharing an exciting term of learning, discovery, creativity, and fun.

In this newsletter, you'll find an overview of what we will be learning this term, along with some important information to help support your child throughout the autumn term.

Main focus (subject):	History – 'Discover'
Enquiry Question:	Can people always make changes to the way they live?
Concepts	Peace, Fairness, Change, Tradition
Concept connections across other subjects, where it adds value:	Science: Animals including humans and seasonal changes R.E. /PSHE/RSE: Myself, how we change and grow. Life is a gift, can we all live in peace. Family and family traditions D.T. Healthy diet and food preparation

History (Year 1 and Year 2)

Our main focus this term is **Discover**, explored through our enquiry question. We will begin by learning about **The Great Fire of London**. The children will share what they know about London today before placing the Great Fire on a timeline to understand when it happened and how long ago it was. As historians, the children will investigate different sources of evidence to discover what happened in 1666. They will consider how reliable these sources are and what they can tell us about the past. They will compare London then and now, exploring how the Great Fire changed the city and influenced the design of its streets and buildings.

After half term, the children will discover the story of **Grace Darling** and explore her bravery during the rescue of shipwrecked sailors. They will examine different sources and accounts of the event, developing their skills as young history detectives.



RE & PSHE (Year 1 and Year 2)

As a Catholic school, Religious Education is at the heart of everything we do and plays a vital role in your child's spiritual and personal development. In Class 2, we encourage the children to grow in their faith while becoming active members of our school and parish community. Through our learning, we nurture Christian values such as kindness, compassion, respect, and caring for others, helping the children to live out these values each day.

We follow the **Religious Education Directory (RED)**, which supports the children in developing their knowledge and understanding of Scripture, the teachings of the Church, and how faith is lived out in everyday life.

This term, we will be exploring **Branch 1: Creation and Covenant**. The children will learn about God's creation, His covenant with Noah, and what God's promises teach us about caring for one another and our



world. They will also learn about the Sacrament of Baptism and its importance in welcoming people into God's family.

Phonics (Year 1)

Phonics is taught every morning for 20 minutes and plays an important role in developing your child's reading, writing, and spelling skills.

This term, the children will revisit the sounds they learned in Reception and build on this knowledge by exploring the different ways the same sound can be represented. For example, they already know the 'ee' sound, and they will learn that it can be written in a variety of ways, such as **e, ea, y, ie, e-e, and ey**.

To support learning at home, every Monday, your child will also bring home a list of five spellings to practise: words linked to that week's Phonics learning and two common exception (tricky) words.

The following Monday, the children will complete a short spelling quiz in school. Their results will be recorded in their spelling book and sent home so you can celebrate their progress and continue to support their learning.



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Year 2)

The children will continue to develop their grammar, spelling, and punctuation skills throughout Year 2. They will learn a range of spelling patterns, grammar rules, and punctuation techniques, building on the strong phonics foundations established in Year 1.

Instead of completing a weekly spelling test for these spelling rules, the children will be encouraged to apply their new knowledge in all of their writing. This approach helps them to embed and use their grammar, spelling, and punctuation skills confidently across the curriculum, rather than simply memorising words for a test.



English (Year 1 and Year 2)

We will begin the term looking at a range of traditional stories, looking at similarities and differences. We will be focusing on speaking and listening, acting out parts of stories, learning actions and using traditional story language. This 'talk for writing' will equip the children with the vocabulary that they will need to be able to write a traditional story of their own, based on a story that they know well. The children will enjoy reading their innovated stories to their peers. We will then move on to instructions and write recipes linked to The Gingerbread Man.



Guided Reading (Year 1 and Year 2)

Reading is an important part of our daily routine in Class 2. Through guided and whole-class reading, children will develop their **fluency, vocabulary and comprehension** using a range of engaging texts, including our class novels.

Each week, your child will bring home a reading book matched to the phonics they are learning in class. Please encourage them to read regularly and return the book each week. Children can also choose a '**Reading for Pleasure**' book from our class library to enjoy at home.

We encourage families to read together as often as possible, as this helps build confidence and a lifelong love of reading. Please use your child's reading record to share any comments or questions with us.

As part of their English homework, children should read their home reading book regularly and practise their weekly spellings each day.



Maths - Year 1

This term, Year 1 will develop their mathematical confidence and fluency through practical activities, discussion and problem-solving. We will explore place value within 10, followed by addition and subtraction using practical and pictorial methods. Later, we will investigate common 2D and 3D shapes before extending our understanding of place value to 20.

At home, you can support your child by practising counting forwards and backwards, recognising numbers, spotting shapes in everyday life and encouraging them to explain their mathematical thinking.

Maths - Year 2

This term, Year 2 will develop their mathematical skills through a focus on **fluency, reasoning and problem-solving**. We will begin with place value, exploring numbers to 100, before moving on to addition and subtraction and developing efficient strategies for solving calculations and problems. Later, we will investigate the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

At home, you can support your child by practising number bonds, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, spotting shapes in everyday life, and using maths in practical situations such as shopping and telling the time.

Science (Year 1 and Year 2)

This term, Year 1 will explore **Animals, Including Humans** and **Seasonal Change**. We will learn about different groups of animals, what they need to survive, and how humans are similar to and different from other animals. We will also observe how the world around us changes as we move into autumn, exploring changes in weather, plants and animals throughout the season.



D.T. and Art (Year 1 and Year 2)

We will be covering a D.T. topic on Cooking & Nutrition and the principles of a healthy diet. We will learn how to prepare food and where food comes from. The children will explore food and cooking by designing and making their own **apple or berry crumble**, inspired by simple foods that may have been eaten in 1666. Children will learn where ingredients come from, how to measure and prepare them safely, and practise techniques such as peeling, chopping, mixing and rubbing-in. They will also consider healthy ingredients and portion sizes before evaluating their finished crumble.



We will be looking at self-portraits in the first half term as well as come collaborative art linked to our work in RE. In the second half term we will cover an Art topic to include creative crafts for Christmas.



Music (Year 1 and Year 2)

Miss Brennan will be teaching the children Music on a Tuesday afternoon this term. They learn how to appraise and perform songs throughout the unit and play the glockenspiel alongside the songs. They will also be learning songs to perform in our Infant Christmas production.



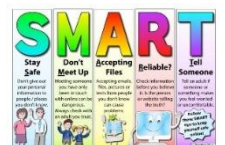
PE (Year 1 and Year 2)

Our PE day will be Friday and during this term we will be focussing on fundamental skills like throwing and catching before moving onto short tactical games. The children will focus on throwing underarm and position themselves to catch an object whether it's a ball, scarf or balloon and improve over the period.



Computing (Year 1 and Year 2)

Children will be learning about staying safe online and exploring and using purple mash. We will be encouraging children to access their 'to do' list on purple mash at home, any activities set will be related to what we are studying in a variety of subjects.



We are looking forward to a busy and successful term. If you do have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks, Mrs Ingham, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Turner & Miss Brennan